

Small Group Study  
September 20, 2020

A suggested format for your group time

- Fellowship
- Prayer
  - \*Lost | Unchurched
  - \*Needs of Group Members
  - \*Needs of Friends & Family
  - \*Other Needs (community, church, country/leaders, mission partnerships, etc.)

*A note about 'prayer request etiquette' - be sensitive to whether or not the person who is making the request wishes for it to stay in Small Group or if they prefer for the church at large to be praying (in which case, please submit the request at [coralhillbaptist.com/bethechurch](http://coralhillbaptist.com/bethechurch) or turn in requests directly to Vera: 270-670-1023).*

- Study (see below)

\*To give your group the best possible chance for robust, text-based discussion, send some sort of reminder during the week of the text that you will be looking at and encourage your folks to read/study beforehand

\*Utilize the Small Group Leader Guide we provide each week

### **Acts 22:1-29**

#### **Chapter Summary:**

Paul is given permission to address the mob of Jews who had just tried to kill him. He begins his defense by establishing his Jewish heritage and training as committed Pharisee. He recounts his Damascus Road encounter with Christ and the call he received to carry the message of the gospel to the Gentiles. When the Jews heard the word "Gentiles" they went into a rage demanding that Paul be executed. Once again Paul is rescued by the Roman guard. The commander of the garrison orders Paul to be scourged until he learns that his prisoner is actually a Roman citizen which immediately changed how they purposed to treat him.

**Key Idea:** We need to be ready to give a defense of our faith in Jesus.

**Jumpstart Questions:** (These questions are designed to generate discussion and to help your group make a connection between everyday life and biblical truth. Please feel free to use any, all, none, or make up your own questions to initiate class conversations.)

- Ask persons in your small group to briefly share their salvation testimony. In what ways were the testimonies different? What were the similarities in these salvation stories?
- In what way can we say that every salvation story can be considered a dramatic experience? Do you think the purpose of our salvation is to merely get us to heaven? What might be some other reasons for which we have been saved?
- Why do you think some people have a hatred for Christ and for His followers?

### **Suggested outline for reading the text and using the Process of Discipleship questions**

1. Ask volunteers to read a portion of the chapter (**Acts 22:1-13**) and then have the group make general observations using the first two diagnostic questions.
  - What is something you like in this passage?
  - Is there anything in this passage that you find difficult to understand?
2. Follow the same pattern for the following sections of Scripture (**Acts 22:14-21; 22:22-27**).
3. Once general observations have been made, ask a volunteer to re-read the entire passage in either the same translation or a different translation so that the entire text is in view. Follow the reading with the remainder discipleship questions.
  - What is something this passage reveals about God (God the Father, God the Son and/or God the Holy Spirit)? *\*How would you answer if this was the only chapter of Scripture you had ever read?*
  - What is something this passage shows us about the nature of Man? Are there any good or bad examples to learn from?
  - Is there a command to obey or a principle to follow in this passage?
  - Is there a specific sin mentioned or exemplified in this passage?
  - Are there any faith-building promises to trust in this passage?
  - What is at least one-way God's Spirit is using this passage to personally encourage, teach, admonish, and/or correct you as you seek to live more like Christ (2 Timothy 3:16-17)?
  - What is one specific thing you can ask God to help you do in response to this passage between now and next week? *\*This about different ways the truth of this text could be applied.*